

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 017180  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 SSM-03 IO-13 /074 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GBEYER:DP  
APPROVED BY NEA - MR. SOBER  
DOD/PA - MR. FREEMAN  
NEA/RA - MR. PRECHT  
NEA/P - MR. UNDELAND  
PM - RAERICSON, JR.  
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----094442 210249Z /45

O P 210142Z JAN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017180

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA

SUBJECT: ISRAELI NEWS BROADCAST

REF: JIDDA 0456

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED CAREFULLY TRANSCRIPT OF DOD PRESS  
BRIEFING JANUARY 18 AND THERE IS NO REPEAT NO REFERENCE TO  
ANY "ERECTION (OR ESTABLISHMENT) OF AN AMERICAN MILITARY  
ESTABLISHMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA" NOR TO SUBJECT OF "ARMS  
SALES TO ISRAEL." IT IS APPARENT, THEREFORE, THAT ISRAELI  
NEWS BROADCAST WHICH AL-MANSOURI HEARD WAS SIMPLY IN ERROR  
OR MISUNDERSTOOD.

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2. FYI. AFTER DOD SPOKESMAN'S BRIEFING ON JANUARY 18  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS OF DOD DISCUSSED BRIEFING ON BACK-  
GROUND BASIS WITH SEVERAL REPORTERS WHO ATTENDED BRIEFING.  
DURING THIS DISCUSSION POINT WAS MADE THAT MILITARY CON-  
STRUCTION REPEAT CONSTRUCTION IN SAUDI ARABIA IS A NON-  
CEILING ITEM. DOD/PA OFFICERS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT  
PORTION OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY STATEMENT OF MAY 19

WHICH READS, "TO IMPLEMENT A POLICY OF ARMS RESTRAINT,  
I AM ESTABLISHING THE FOLLOWING SET OF CONTROLS, APPLICABLE

TO ALL TRANSFERS EXCEPT THOSE TO COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE  
HAVE MAJOR DEFENSE TREATIES (NATO, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, AND  
NEW ZEALAND). WE WILL REMAIN FAITHFUL TO OUR TREATY  
OBLIGATIONS, AND WILL HONOR OUR HISTORIC RESPONSIBILITIES  
TO INSURE THE SECURITY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL." END FYI.

3. WE BELIEVE IF US WERE TO ISSUE PUBLIC DENIAL OF ISRAELI  
NEWSCAST THAT THAT WOULD CONSIDERABLY INCREASE INTEREST AND  
AWARENESS OF THIS ERRONEOUS REPORT -- AND MIGHT INCREASE  
SUSPICIONS IN ARAB WORLD AND ELSEWHERE THAT US MILITARY  
INVOLVEMENT IN SAUDI ARABIA MAY INDEED BE MORE EXTENSIVE  
THAN IT IS.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY ADVISE AL-MANSOURI IMMEDIATELY THAT  
DOD SPOKESMAN JANUARY 18 MADE NO SUCH REMARKS; THAT  
ISRAELI NEWSCAST AS AL-MANSOURI REPORTED IT WAS IN ERROR;  
BUT THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE A PUBLIC DENIAL IS THE BEST  
COURSE AT THIS TIME, DRAWING ON RATIONALE OUTLINED PARA. 3  
ABOVE. AT YOUR DISCRETION YOU MAY WISH TO POINT OUT THAT  
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION IS GENERALLY NOT INCLUDED UNDER ARMS  
CEILING LIMITS AND ISRAELI BROADCAST MAY BE GARBLED  
REFERENCE TO THIS FACT.

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CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE017180  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GBAYER:DP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780031-0996  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 0b0b25e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** JIDDA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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